(c) whether Government are formulating any specific scheme for development of such villages in the country;

(d) if so, the funds allocated by Government for development of the said villages; and

(e) by when the scheme is likely to be commenced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. Planning Commission is considering a scheme for development of villages having 50 percent and above Scheduled Castes population as Adarsh Dalit Grams. Details have not been finalized.

Grant-in-aid to NGOs in Maharashtra

531. SHRI MANOHAR JOSHI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that no Non-Government Organisation (NGO) from Maharashtra got grant-in-aid in the financial year 2006-07;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) how many proposals from Maharashtra are pending for the grant of grant-in-aid under the various schemes; and

(d) the list of proposals approved by Government in financial year 2006-07, State-wise and Non Government Organisation (NGO)-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) and (b) 57 Non-Government Organizations of Maharashtra have been sanctioned grant-in-aid in the current fianancial year.

(c) There are 130 proposals pending for sanction of grant-in-aid under the various schemes.

(d) 1328 NGO proposals under seven different welfare schemes received from 31 States/UTs have been approved by the Ministry in the financial year 2006-07.